



## **Steve Radack, Commissioner**

Harris County Precinct 3

# **PRECINCT THREE THIRD QUARTER REPORT 2013**

An innovative community garden project from Harris County Precinct Three Commissioner Steve Radack aimed at teaching seniors more about organic foods and healthy living will start at the Thomas A. Glazier Senior Education Center in October.

Precinct Three crews recently finished construction of the community garden behind the senior education center at 16600 Pine Forest in the Texas 6 and Clay Road area. Some of the specially-constructed gardens beds are raised and others are vertical. That will allow seniors to more easily reach them from sitting and standing positions and make the beds easier to tend. The garden was also fashioned in a way as to leave plenty of room for walkways and wheelchairs

Seniors who sign up for the program take responsibility for the care of the garden and will eventually rotate crops to match the different growing seasons throughout the year. In October, for example, they will plant organic kale, lettuce, beets, carrots, radish, Swiss chard, spinach, Brussels sprouts and green beans.

Seniors participating will learn that raised gardening beds are easier to maintain and that they increase soil temperature and drainage. That means the growing season for a particular crop can be extended. The seniors will also learn what it's like to grow vegetables in a natural and organic fashion. That means no chemicals or manmade pesticides will be used. Those participating will also be allowed to harvest the crop on special harvest days so they can take home some of the vegetables they tended to in the garden.

Participation in each growing season's class will have to be limited, but dozens of seniors have already expressed interest in working in the garden. The program also complements the long list of popular classes already offered at the Glazier Senior Education Center that focus on healthy cooking, nutrition, diet and staying fit.

For more information on the community gardening program and other classes and senior educational opportunities, call the staff at the Glazier Senior Education Center at (713) 274-3250.

## **Annual Halloween Safe Night in Precinct Three**

Commissioner Radack's annual Harris County Precinct Three Halloween Safe Night is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the Westside Service Center, 16635 Clay Road. There will be refreshments, games and prizes, candy and a costume contest at 7 p.m. Parents should make sure their children bring trick-or-treat bags. For more information on this spooky event, call (281) 463-6300.

## **“Digging Old Stuff” at Kleb Woods Nature Center**

Commissioner Radack’s staff at the Kleb Wood Nature Center, 20303 Draper Road in Tomball, will host a special program to celebrate Texas Archeology Month – “Digging Old Stuff” – on Saturday, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

There is no charge for the event and participants will get hands-on experience in an authentic archeology dig with members of the Texas Archeology Society. They will also get the chance to forge their own keepsake with the Kleb Woods blacksmith group. They can learn how to make a candle as the early Texas settlers did or learn about making and finding arrowheads. There will also be lessons on a variety of other historical crafts and skills.

For more information, call (281) 357-5324 or email [klebwoods@hctx.net](mailto:klebwoods@hctx.net).

## **Big thanks for big event for little birds**

More than 600 visitors attended Commissioner Radack’s annual Kleb Woods Hummingbird Festival at the Kleb Woods Nature Center on Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>. That’s more than have ever attended and about half of those in attendance were new to the event.

More than 70 volunteers helped coordinate the festival, which featured hummingbird experts, lessons on capturing and banding the small birds and the chance for patrons to closely examine the unique creatures. There were also programs on identifying hummingbirds and how to document sightings.

Commissioner Radack thanks all who attended, participated and volunteered. For more information about programs at the Kleb Woods Nature Center, call (281) 357-5324.

## **Construction reports and staying informed**

Updates on Precinct Three road and construction projects previously featured in this report can now be seen on Commissioner Radack’s website at [www.pct3.hctx.net](http://www.pct3.hctx.net). That data will be updated monthly since this report is now generated quarterly.

As always, Precinct Three encourages comments and questions. You can mail them to Commissioner Radack’s office at 1001 Preston, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 or email us at [pct3@hctx.net](mailto:pct3@hctx.net).